



PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 27754/35856

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6/7/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:)	I hereby certify that this paper is being
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Serial No.: 09/369,543 ✓)	addressed to: Commissioner for
)	Patents, Box PCT, Washington, DC
Filed: August 6, 1999 ✓)	20231 on this date:
)	
For: PRINTER AND METHOD OF)	May 16, 2001
PRINTING)	
)	<i>Bryan J. Lempia</i>
Group Art Unit: 2861 ✓)	Bryan J. Lempia
)	Reg. No. 39,746
Examiner: Thinh Nguyen ✓)	Attorney for Applicant

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RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This paper is in response to the official action mailed February 16, 2001.

Reconsideration is hereby respectfully solicited in view of the following remarks.

The applicant gratefully acknowledges the examiner's withdrawal of the finality in the prior official action. Claims 1-40 remain pending in the application.

Claims 1-40 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(b) as obvious over JP 4-10948 (Kondo). A machine-produced English translation of Kondo is enclosed herewith for the convenience of the examiner.

The examiner's attention is once again drawn to paragraphs (a) and (c) of method claim 1, and to the corresponding recitations in apparatus claims 2 and 17, which recite:

“(a) printing pixels in swaths of different colours side by side in a

repeating pattern in a first relative traverse of a printhead and a surface to be printed, each swath being printed by a respective block of print elements and being wider than a swath printed by a single print element;"

"(c) in a further relative traverse printing further swaths which at least partially overprint previously printed swaths in registry therewith, wherein each overprinting swath is of a different colour to the previously printed swath which it overprints."

These features are neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by Kondo. The following discussion refers to lines and paragraphs of the Kondo English translation.

As described at page 2, lines 25-31, Kondo first describes an inkjet printhead and refers to FIGS. 7 and 8. The printhead has multiple nozzles for each color to enable color printing. The arrangement of these nozzles is illustrated in FIG. 8, wherein the nozzles are shown arranged in groups of four (Y for yellow, M for Magenta, C for Cyan, and Bk for Black). Each group of four is fed from a respective aperture 106.

Kondo then describes, with reference to FIGS. 1-4, an alternative arrangement in which the nozzles are no longer arranged in groups of a single color, but are instead arranged in a plurality of units. Each unit includes four nozzles, identified as 7Y, 7M, 7C, 7Bk, wherein each nozzle is for depositing ink of a respective color. A similar arrangement is described with reference to FIGS. 5 and 6 in Kondo.

Kondo does not describe any method of printing that is performed using any of the illustrated inkjet printheads. Kondo does disclose that the inkjet printhead moves in a reciprocating manner, but goes no further in describing any method of printing or printhead movement.

Kondo does not disclose printing of pixels in swaths of different colors side-by-side in a repeating pattern in a first relative traverse of the head and a surface to be



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) Group Art Unit: 2861
Filed: August 6, 1999)
) Examiner: Thinh Nguyen

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

**Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment for the above application.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8)

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as enclosed therewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, on **May 16, 2001**, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.


Bryan J. Lempiere